WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A method for allocating resources for creating a computing environment, the method using a processor coupled to a display device and to a user input device, the method comprising:

displaying a list of resources on the display device;

accepting signals from the user input device to indicate the configuration of at least a portion of the resources; and

configuring the selected resources.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the resources include hardware processors

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the processing resources include software in particular operating systems and application software.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising

accepting first signals from the user input device to indicate a configuration to be used;

accepting second signals from the user input device to indicate one or more software components to be installed; and

automatically installing the software components onto the processing platform.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the software component is a server component.

6. The method of claim 6, wherein the software component is a client component.

7. A system for providing configurable resources to achieve a computing environment, the system comprising

a configurable communication link;

a plurality of hardware devices coupled to the communication link; and

a plurality of software programs coupled to the hardware devices, the software programs including operating systems, application software, and others of a similar nature.

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8. The method of claim7, further comprising

visual construction of the computing environment via a user interface,the user interface coupled to a display screen and to an input device for generating signals in response to interactions of a user, the method comprising:

accepting a first signal from the input device which enables the user to specify a type of operating system for use in the computing environment;

accepting a second signal from the input device which enables the user to specify a type of hardware for use within the computing environment;

accepting one or more further signals from the input device which enable the user to specify one or more software to be used within the computing environment.

9. The method of claim 8 further comprising

accepting a signal which allows the user to specify a new device to run in the computing environment, activating the new device and displaying the computing environment having the active device.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the displaying of a plurality of configurations occurs prior to the step of accepting a first signal which enables the user to specify or select a type of configuration.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the devices displayed may be any hardware device including hand-held devices, PDAs, cell phones, smart cards, Global Positioning Systems, Point-of-Sale terminals, or any other form of hardware device which involves computing in a generic form.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the visual configuration system further comprising accepting a signal which allows the user to specify constraints on the hardware such as the size of the hard disk, the bandwidth of the network, etc.

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13. The method of claim 12 wherein the method further comprising accepting a signal which enables the user to specify a request for shared storage;

and allocating such storage to be accessible through any device in the environment.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the method further comprising accepting a signal which enables the user to specify a request for private storage;

and allocating such storage to be accessible through specific devices in the environment for specific users in the account.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the method further comprising accepting a signal which enables the user to request a copy a device configuration;

and making such a copy of the device configuration, saving it in storage;

and accepting a signal which enable the user to instantiate a device from a stored configuration;

and instantiating such device from a stored configuration.